

same reason will hold good, as prevailed in former times, viz. That the Council should have a reasonable Allowance out of the Publick.

The Presidents of former Assemblies in the like Cases, being wholly on our side ever since the Time of the Revolution, we cannot help expressing our Surprize, that the Lower House should impose so ungrateful a Task upon us, as to apply to his Lordship for the Support of the Publick Charge out of his own Revenue, or otherwise to subject our just Rights for Services done to the Country, to the meer Will and Pleasure of the Lord Proprietary, who, as you Confess, is under no manner of restraint to pay his Council, and as there is no other Provision made for the Council, this House must still insist upon having the Reasonable and Customary Allowances, and thereby put an End to this long and expensive Session.

Sign'd by Order, S. S. Cl. Up. Ho.

By the Lower House of Assembly, October the 26th 1723.

May it please your Honours;

IN answer to your Message this Day, by Col. H. and two *Answer to the 9th
Mess-ge.*
other of your Members, we are at a loss to know by what part of our Message of the Twenty-fifth Instant, we have acknowledged your Allowances to have been both Reasonable and Customary, so as to give your Honours the least Colour for the Consequence you are pleased to draw from that Message, viz. That those Allowances are now just, certain we are, that there is nothing contained in that Message, or our Intentions, to warrant such an Inference. We have indeed agreed that such Allowances have been made by Virtue of Laws, formerly in force, but that that should continue after the Repeal of those Laws, is a Notion too ridiculous to prevail with us, or any People in their Senses.

We must with regret confess, that some late Assemblies have agreed to the Allowances your Honours now Claim, altho' no better founded than at present, we apprehend for want of duly considering the Alteration the Repeal of the former Laws, and making the present Provision by the Act now in force, for settling the Revenue, made in the Case, which unhappy, as well as illegal Concessions, are (tho' but poor ones) the Foundations of the present insupportable publick Expence, and intollerable Fatigue to our selves, which, we hope, will be a Warning to future Assemblies, to prevent their giving way to wrongful and unjust Taxations, and let them know, that when ever they once do so, such Taxations will be Demanded as things due of common Right, and that must be either given up or the People put to Excessive Charge in the Vindication of their just Rights.

It is very Surprizing to us to hear again in this last Message, that there is no other provision than the Allowance now Claim'd, when your Honours, as well as this House, must undoubtedly be acquainted, that the Law for *Twelve Pence per Hogshead*, so often mentioned, makes a Provision; and your not receiving the Benefit of that Provision, can never justify us in Assessing that again on the People, which they've already paid; we hope never to be such unjust Stewards to those we Represent, or instead of insisting on their just Rights, as in Duty we are obliged, be instrumental in their being unjustly Burthened and Oppressed.

We agree, that the running the Country to great Charge by unnecessary Messages,